



Blogging = Conversations = Community:

How to Comment

Write a Meaningful Comment

Avoid a brief comment that adds no new ideas to the conversation—like “yeah,” “good job,” “good post.” If you have nothing new to add, don’t comment, but if a post speaks to you and you have something to share, **enter the conversation!**

1. Ask a question.
2. Agree or disagree.
3. Share a related connection: to a personal experience, to another text, to a current issue/problem/event.
4. Make a recommendation.
5. Piggyback on others’ ideas, adding more to the discussion.
6. Add your own analysis or opinion.

Use an Appropriate Tone

Remember, words can hurt, even in cyberspace. Treat others as you want to be treated.

1. Avoid sarcastic remarks. Online, we don’t have the benefit of body language and facial expressions, so our words can easily be misunderstood.
2. Disagree nicely. Start with a positive remark followed by your explanation of disagreement.
 - Examples:
While I agree that...I don’t agree.
I understand that...but...
You make a good point...however...
You do a nice job...but I’m not clear on...
3. Never attack the person. Stick to talking about the issues.
4. Always be professional and courteous, avoiding ranting.

Identify Yourself

Blogging is about building relationships and entering conversations. We need to know who is talking. Remember, your commenting is a part of your digital footprint.

1. Consistently use the same name when you comment (first name, last initial). But, be careful not to reveal your full identity.
2. Use @ to reply to an individual’s comment. This makes the conversation more personal and easy to follow.
3. Always include a link back to your blog (if you have one). Most comment boxes ask for your name, e-mail, and website. By entering the URL of your blog in the website box, you’re advertising your blog—driving readers to your blog!